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**Health Care & Wellness Committee**

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**HB 1353**

**Brief Description:** Concerning continuing education for pharmacy technicians.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Rivers, Cody, Schmick, Moeller, Orcutt, Ladenburg, Dahlquist, Harris, Moscoso, Green and Kenney.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Requires certified pharmacy technicians to complete continuing education requirements.

**Hearing Date:** 2/3/11

**Staff:** Jim Morishima (786-7191).

**Background:**

Certified pharmacy technicians provide assistance to licensed pharmacists by performing manipulative, non-discretionary functions associated with the practice of pharmacy. In addition, pharmacy technicians who meet criteria for employment, experience, training, and proficiency may perform specialized functions such as unit-dose medication checking and parenteral preparations. Pharmacy technicians may only practice while under the immediate supervision of a licensed pharmacist.

In order to be certified, a pharmacy technician must:

- be a high school graduate or successfully complete general education development tests;
- complete a formal pharmacy technician training program approved by the Board of Pharmacy or an on-the-job pharmacy technician training program approved by the Board of Pharmacy; and
- pass a national standardized pharmacy technician certification examination.

Pharmacy technicians are not subject to continuing education requirements.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Summary of Bill:**

Certified pharmacy technicians must complete continuing education requirements established by the Board of Pharmacy.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on January 26, 2011.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.